exchange is 15 days, if it is technically feasible.

(b) The stages involved are as under:

(1) Submission of application for shift by the subscriber to the commercial officer/customer service centre of the exchange in which the telephone is working.

(2) Issue of two OBs: one for disconnection of the number and the second for opening of a new number at the place where the telephone is desired to be shifted.

(3) Carrying out the physical installation of telephone connection at the new place.

(4) Disconnection of the telephone from the exchange from where it is to be shifted.

(5) Energisation of telephone connection from the new exchange, testing of number of intimation of the new number to the subscriber.

(c) No Sir. However, in some cases due to area being technically non-feasible, shift of telephone connection gets delayed. In such cases, subscriber is informed of the reasons for delay and likely time for carrying out the shift. The cases are being periodically reviewed and shifts effected after making the area feasible.

(d) The stages involved in the shift of the telephone have been kept at the barest minimum to avoid hardships to the subscriber. Time taken to complete all the stages will considerably reduced after the activities are computerised.

(e) Action as per departmental rules is taken wherever any case of negligence comes to the notice of the department.

Blackmailing India By the US Government

2292. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA:
SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news-item which appeared in the Bombay edition of the Daily of 29th July, 1995, captioned 'US Blackmail';

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the US Government to stop supply of sophisticated arms and nuclear device to Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The newsitem carried by The Daily of 29 July, 1995 is without any basis, There is no linkage between the scrapping of the Dhabol Power Project deal with Enron, the US Administraion's proposal to tranfer military equipment to Pakistan or the situation in Kashmir.

(c) and (d) Government has made its strong opposition to the US Administration's proposal to transfer military equipment worth $368 million to Pakistan clear to the US at various levels, both in India and the US. Government have emphasized that the direct and adverse impact of this military package on India's security is likely to trigger an arms race in the region. The US Government is not proposing to transfer any nuclear device to Pakistan.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 63 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notification